

Subject: Email - Communication - Scott Mickelson - Victoria Ave bike lane decision - CK 6000-5 x 7000-1

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>

Sent: Sunday, April 25, 2021 11:17 PM

To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>

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--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED] ---

Submitted on Sunday, April 25, 2021 - 23:16

Submitted by user: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Date Sunday, April 25, 2021

To His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name Scott

Last Name Mickelson

Phone Number (306) [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Address [REDACTED] Victoria Ave

City Saskatoon

Province Saskatchewan

Postal Code S7H [REDACTED]

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable)

Subject Victoria Ave bike lane decision

Meeting (if known)

Comments

I am a homeowner concerned about the city council's decision for bike lane option 1.

Firstly, I want to state that I am for bike lanes on Victoria Ave. I think continuing the bike lanes from the other side of 8th street to Taylor Street will be extremely useful for many and make biking/driving on Victoria safer. I will use the bike lane and I want other people who bike to be safer as well.

I was very disappointed with the decision for option 1 because it is not very connective for cyclists on the East side of the street biking from either South of Taylor or north of 8th street. They would have to walk their bikes on a crosswalk across Victoria and bike/walk across either Taylor or 8th street. I feel this is a silly way to connect people with bike lanes. Bike lanes should not be so disjointed. Also crossing 8th street can be very dangerous. In fall 2020, a co-worker's (who is a new Buena Vista Resident) wife was struck by a car while walking across 8th street and she was very seriously injured and is still recovering (she is not fully back to work, has minor mobility issues and still has serious migraines). My co-worker, had to take 4+ months off to take care of his wife.

Another reason I feel this is not a good option, is residents should have access to street parking as well as a bike lane. Many cars park on both sides of the street. There are many infills (and will probably be more) so there will be even more residents. Street parking is quite valuable for us. When I look out my window at night there are many cars and very few parking options available. Forcing them to park on the sides streets is cruel and will crowd the narrow sides streets even more. Many people need to plug in their car in the winter. If they lose their street parking, they will not be able to start their vehicles. You can not deny that if one side of the street loses street parking for a bike lane it will negatively affect the house owner's property value and seriously inconvenient them every day.

Probably the biggest reason my wife and I purchased a house on Victoria are the beautiful mature trees(+95% of them are on the side of the street). If we shrink the median and lose a few trees that is ok. You can transplant the majority of these median trees somewhere else because almost all of them are still small. So you will be saving most of them. Unfortunately, there are a handful of bigger trees near the park we might lose. But these trees weren't even planted in a straight row and the way they grew demonstrates they weren't pruned or taken care of as they matured. They are also random species unlike the trees on the side of the streets. It may be an unfortunate cost.

I believe if you want to have a beautiful, well functioning, safe city you will have to spend the money. Therefore I think option 4 is the best(which unfortunately is the most expensive). If you don't spend the money my second option would be for option 6 and do nothing to save the money and keep Victoria beautiful, mostly functional and mostly safe.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]